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In the claims:

Please cancel claims 1-48 without prejudice or disclaimer to applicants' right to pursue the subject matter of these claims in a later-filed application. Please add claims 49-55 as follows:

- 49. (New) An agent which comprises consecutive amino acids, which amino acids have a sequence identical to a sequence within a portion of an amino terminal domain of a CCR5 chemokine receptor, wherein the amino terminal domain of the CCR5 chemokine receptor is set forth in SEQ ID NO:5.--
- 50. (New) The agent of claim 49, wherein the consecutive amino acids have the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:5.--
- 51. (New) The agent of claim 49 or 50, wherein the consecutive amino acids are identical to the corresponding original consecutive amino acids present in the CCR5 chemokine receptor.--
- 52. (New) The agent of claim 49 or 50, wherein the consecutive amino acids are modified from the corresponding consecutive amino acids present in the CCR5 chemokine receptor.--
- 53. (New) The agent of claim 49 or 50, wherein the agent is a polypeptide.--
- 54. (New) A composition which comprises a carrier and an amount of the agent of claim 49 or 50 effective to